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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

In re Application of: John R. Liddicoat et al.
Serial No.: 10/068,700
Filing Date: 02/05/2002
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR REDUCING
MITRAL REGURGITATION
Group Art Unit: 3738
Examiner: Crystal M. Gilpin
Attorney's Docket No.: VIA-16

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
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August 25, 2003

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

James A. Sheridan

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

James A. Sheridan 8/25/03
(SIGNATURE)

August 25, 2003

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Sir:

RESPONSE

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action in the
above-identified application.

Claims 1-17 stand subject to a restriction requirement under
35 U.S.C. §121 as follows:

Group I - Claims 1-12, drawn to an apparatus for
reducing mitral regurgitation, classified in class 623, subclass
2.36; and

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Group II - Claims 13-17, drawn to a method for reducing mitral regurgitation, classified in class 128, subclass 898.

In response, Applicants hereby elect, without prejudice, to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-12.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute all non-elected subject matter in related applications.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Sheridan 8/25/03

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